GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2116
ANSWERED ON:27.08.2007
BASMATI RICE
Bishnoi Shri Kuldeep

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that the crop of Basmati Rice has been destroyed due to Leaf Blight disease particularly in Haryana, Punjab and Uttar Pradesh for the past many years;

(b) if so, the losses suffered as a result thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to provide improved seeds of Basmati Rice to the farmers?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA)

(a) & (b): No, Sir. As per reports received from State Departments of Agriculture and Central Integrated Pest Management Centres of Punjab and Haryana States, no economic loss to the Basmati Rice has been reported, due to the attack of Leaf blight disease. However, trace to low incidence of leaf blight disease has been recorded in isolated patches which was managed timely by applying suitable Integrated Pest Management practices. In the State of U.P. low to moderate incidence of bacterial leaf blight (BLB) in rice was reported during October and September, 2006, which was also managed by the farmers using suitable control measures as advised by Agriculture Extension Officers of Central and State Department of Agriculture.

(c): Government provide assistance for production of certified seed @ Rs. 200 per Quintal under Integrated Crop Development Programme of Rice through Macro Management mode of State work Plan.